APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/774,562	02/01/2001	Debbie Kipling	7975.0001-00	2520

22852   7590   05/25/2007
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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3623	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
05/25/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<table>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Office Action Summary</td><td>Application No.
09/774,562</td><td>Applicant(s)
KIPLING, DEBBIE</td></tr>
<tr><td>Examiner
Andre Boyce</td><td>Art Unit
3623</td></tr>
</table>

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>26 February 2007</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-7,9-23,25,26,28,29,31,32,34,35 and 37-41* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-7,9-23,25,26,28,29,31,32,34,35 and 37-41* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1.   A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this

application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action

has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on

February 26, 2007 has been entered.

2.   Claims 1, 9-12, 17-21 and 37 have been amended. Claims 1-7, 9-23, 25, 26, 28,

29, 31, 32, 34, 35 and 37-41 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can

be found in a prior Office action.

4.   Claims 1-7, 9, 12-23, 31, 32, 34, 35 and 37-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C.

103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurzius et al (USPN 6,385,620), in view of

Tracey et al (USPN 6,798,413), in further view of Nadkarni (USPN 6,266,659).

As per claim 1, Kurzius et al disclose a computer-implemented method for

ordering workers for a client (system 10 for automated candidate recruiting and

processing, figure 1), comprising: receiving an order request including criteria

identifying qualifications for a worker (job posting, including candidate qualifications

is received from employer 1304, figure 13), wherein the order request is processed in a number of stages (i.e., process by which new postings can be created and registered by an employer, column 14, lines 55-56); notifying a supplier of the order request (i.e., recruiter is notified that a new job posting has been entered 1308, figure 13); receiving at least one candidate submission from the notified supplier, including information identifying a suggested worker intended to satisfy the order request (i.e., candidate profiles that match job criteria, 1312, figure 13); forwarding information corresponding to the candidate submission to the client for review (employer informed of the ranked matchings 1314, column 15, lines 51-56); receiving from the client a candidate approval associated with the suggested worker (i.e., candidate profile is updated with indicated interest or feedback 1110, figure 11); and notifying the supplier of the candidate approval (i.e., recruiter is notified that interest has been indicated by employer, 1112, figure 11).

Kurzius et al does not explicitly disclose providing an order history of the order request, wherein the order history includes information on any action taken on the order request and text based on electronic mail associated with such action. However, Kurzius discloses a variety of communication and notification methods, including electronic mail (column 14, lines 28-32). Moreover, Tracey et al disclose managers able to graphically determine who is responsible for a project at any stage and the system displaying status information derived from a database and updated as work is performed (column 3, lines 1-6). In addition, Nadkarni discloses employer

activity information that describes the action taken by the employer (e.g., decision pending, rejected, canceled, figure 6(i)).

Neither Kurzius et al nor Tracey et al disclose providing information on efficiency of the supplier in fulfilling the order request. Nadkarni discloses a vendor able to print reports on interviews scheduled by employers, open inquiries, and identification of those positions remaining open (column 7, lines 22-33).

Tracey et al disclose applications for the features described in a variety of workflow contexts, including tracking and managing of tasks (column 5, lines 49-56), while both Kurzius et al and Nadkarni are concerned with effective recruitment of potential candidates, therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include providing an order history of the order request, wherein the order history includes information on any action taken on the order request and text based on electronic mail associated with such action and providing information on efficiency of the supplier in fulfilling the order request in Kurzius et al, as seen in Tracey et al and Nadkarni, respectfully, as an efficient manner of tracking the status of the job posting process.

As per claims 2 and 13, Kurzius et al disclose generating a display screen including a selectable template identifying predetermined qualification criteria of a worker (i.e., job posting form 1800, used to specify desired candidate qualifications, figure 18); prompting the client to complete the order request using the selectable template; and including in the order request the predetermined qualification criteria

included in the selectable template (i.e., job posting form is presented to the

employer for entry of job description 1302, column 14, lines 57-59).

As per claim 3, Kurzius et al disclose selecting from a database, based on the

qualification criteria included in the received order request, a particular supplier; and

notifying the particular supplier of the order request (i.e., recruiter is notified based

upon the qualifications of a particular candidate, column 14, lines 28-31).

As per claims 4 and 14, Kurzius et al disclose notifying the client of the

suggested worker by automatically generating and sending an electronic mail

message to the client (i.e., employer informed of the ranked matching depending on

the notification scheme that has been selected, including e-mail, column 15, lines

51-56 and column 5, lines 28-32).

As per claims 5, 15, 22, 31, and 34, Kurzius et al disclose determining the current

stage of the order request (i.e., which step of the process the job posting is currently

at, figure 13). Kurzius et al does not disclose generating a first display screen

including s associated with each stage of the order request; and modifying each

status display component to reflect the current stage of the order request. Tracey et

al disclose managers able to graphically determine who is responsible for a project

at any stage and the system displaying status information derived from a database

and updated as work is performed (column 3, lines 1-6). Further, Tracey et al

disclose applications for the features described in a variety of workflow contexts,

including tracking and managing of tasks (column 5, lines 49-56), therefore it would

have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to include a status display components associated with each stage of the

order request; and modifying each status display component in Kurzius et al, as

seen in Tracey et al, as an efficient manner of tracking the status of the job posting

process.

As per claims 6, 16, 23, 32, and 35, Kurzius et al does not explicitly disclose the

status display components correspond to a series of bars equal to the number of

stages, the method further comprising: highlighting the number of bars

corresponding to the current stage. Tracey et al disclose managers able to

graphically determine who is responsible for a project at any stage and the system

displaying status information derived from a database and updated as work is

performed (column 3, lines 1-6). Further, Tracey et al disclose a display generator

that creates colored bars or other visually identifiable symbols on a display screen

that symbolizes output and status (column 6, lines 47-49). In addition, Tracey et al

disclose applications for the features described in a variety of workflow contexts,

including tracking and managing of tasks (column 5, lines 49-56), therefore it would

have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to include a status display components correspond to a series of bars

equal to the number of stages in Kurzius et al, as seen in Tracey et al, as an efficient

manner of tracking the status of the job posting process.

As per claim 7, Kurzius et al disclose generating a display screen including a

listing of order requests associated with a particular user (i.e., the employer

database and job posting database are updated to reflect the addition of a new job

posting 1306, figure 13); and associating with each order request listed in the

second display screen the corresponding status display component (i.e., which step

of the process the job posting is currently at, figure 13).

As per claim 9, Kurzius et al disclose computer-implemented method of ordering

workers using a network (system 10 for automated candidate recruiting and

processing, figure 1), comprising: providing an interface in the network for clients to

obtain workers from a supplier of workers (i.e., employer client 60 operating using

computer 80, which includes output device 84, figures 1 and 2); permitting clients to

have access to the interface to specify order requests identifying an order for

workers (i.e., requesting candidates via computer 80), the order request including

criteria identifying qualifications for a worker (i.e., candidate qualifications), wherein

the order request is processed in a number of stages (i.e., process by which new

postings can be created and registered by an employer, column 14, lines 55-56);

permitting the supplier to have access to the order request based on the qualification

criteria (i.e., recruiter is notified that a new job posting has been entered 1308, figure

13); and receiving at least one candidate submission from the supplier, including

information identifying a suggested worker intended to satisfy the order request (i.e.,

employer is informed of the ranked matching 1314, figure 13).

Kurzius et al does not explicitly disclose providing an order history of the order

request, wherein the order history includes information on any action taken on the

order request and text based on electronic mail associated with such action. Tracey

et al disclose managers able to graphically determine who is responsible for a

project at any stage and the system displaying status information derived from a

database and updated as work is performed (column 3, lines 1-6). In addition,

Nadkarni discloses employer activity information that describes the action taken by

the employer (e.g., decision pending, rejected, canceled, figure 6(i)).

Neither Kurzius et al nor Tracey et al disclose providing information on efficiency

of the supplier in fulfilling the order request. Nadkarni discloses a vendor able to

print reports on interviews scheduled by employers, open inquiries, and identification

of those positions remaining open (column 7, lines 22-33).

Tracey et al disclose applications for the features described in a variety of

workflow contexts, including tracking and managing of tasks (column 5, lines 49-56),

while both Kurzius et al and Nadkarni are concerned with effective recruitment of

potential candidates, therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary

skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include providing an order

history of the order request, wherein the order history includes information on any

action taken on the order request and text based on electronic mail associated with

such action and providing information on efficiency of the supplier in fulfilling the

order request in Kurzius et al, as seen in Tracey et al and Nadkarni, respectfully, as

an efficient manner of tracking the status of the job posting process.

As per claim 12, Kurzius et al disclose computer-implemented method for

ordering workers for a client (system 10 for automated candidate recruiting and

processing, figure 1), comprising: receiving from the client an order request including

criteria identifying qualifications for a worker (job posting, including candidate

qualifications is received from employer 1304, figure 13) wherein the order request is processed in a number of stages (i.e., process by which new postings can be created and registered by an employer, column 14, lines 55-56); selecting candidate information from a database based on the identified qualification criteria in the order request, wherein the selected candidate information includes information identifying a suggested worker intended to satisfy the order request (i.e., candidate profile information in database server 30 that matches job criteria 1312, figure 13); forwarding the candidate information to the client for review (i.e., employer informed of ranked candidates 1314, figure 13); receiving from the client a candidate approval associated with the suggested worker; and notifying the suggested worker of the approval (i.e., notification that interest has been received from employer, including emailing the candidate, column 14, lines 28-32).

Kurzius et al does not explicitly disclose providing an order history of the order request, wherein the order history includes information on any action taken on the order request and text based on electronic mail associated with such action. Tracey et al disclose managers able to graphically determine who is responsible for a project at any stage and the system displaying status information derived from a database and updated as work is performed (column 3, lines 1-6). In addition, Nadkarni discloses employer activity information that describes the action taken by the employer (e.g., decision pending, rejected, canceled, figure 6(i)).

Tracey et al disclose applications for the features described in a variety of workflow contexts, including tracking and managing of tasks (column 5, lines 49-56),

while both Kurzius et al and Nadkarni are concerned with effective recruitment of

potential candidates, therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary

skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include providing an order

history of the order request, wherein the order history includes information on any

action taken on the order request and text based on electronic mail associated with

such action and providing information on efficiency of the supplier in fulfilling the

order request in Kurzius et al, as seen in Tracey et al and Nadkarni, respectfully, as

an efficient manner of tracking the status of the job posting process.

Further, Tracey et al disclose applications for the features described in a variety

of workflow contexts, including tracking and managing of tasks (column 5, lines 49-

56), therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to include a summary report display component in

Kurzius et al, as seen in Tracey et al, as an efficient manner of tracking the status of

the job posting process.

Claim 17 is rejected based upon the rejection of claim 12, since it is the computer

program claim corresponding to the method claim.

Claim 18 is rejected based upon the rejection of claims 5 and 6, since it is the

interface claim corresponding to the method claims.

As per claim 19, Kurzius et al does not disclose a summary report display

component displaying order identification information. Tracey et al disclose

managers able to graphically determine who is responsible for a project at any stage

and the system displaying status information derived from a database and updated

as work is performed (column 3, lines 1-6). In addition, Tracey et al disclose applications for the features described in a variety of workflow contexts, including tracking and managing of tasks (column 5, lines 49-56), therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a status display components correspond to a series of bars equal to the number of stages in Kurzius et al, as seen in Tracey et al, as an efficient manner of tracking the status of the job posting process.

As per claim 20, Kurzius et al disclose a computer-implemented method for ordering workers for a client (system 10 for automated candidate recruiting and processing, figure 1), comprising: receiving an order request including criteria identifying qualifications for a worker (job posting, including candidate qualifications is received from employer 1304, figure 13), comprising generating a display screen including a selectable template identifying predetermined qualification criteria of a worker (i.e., job posting form 1800, used to specify desired candidate qualifications, figure 18); prompting the client to complete the order request using the selectable template; and including in the order request the predetermined qualification criteria included in the selectable template (i.e., job posting form is presented to the employer for entry of job description 1302, column 14, lines 57-59), selecting from a database, based on the qualification criteria included in the received order request, a particular supplier; and notifying the particular supplier of the order request (i.e., recruiter is notified based upon the qualifications of a particular candidate, column 14, lines 28-31), notifying a supplier of the order request (i.e., recruiter is notified that

a new job posting has been entered 1308, figure 13); receiving at least one

candidate submission from the notified supplier, including information identifying a

suggested worker intended to satisfy the order request (i.e., candidate profiles that

match job criteria, 1312, figure 13); forwarding information corresponding to the

candidate submission to the client for review (employer informed of the ranked

matchings 1314, column 15, lines 51-56); wherein forwarding includes notifying the

client of the suggested worker by automatically generating and sending an electronic

mail message to the client (i.e., employer informed of the ranked matching

depending on the notification scheme that has been selected, including e-mail,

column 15, lines 51-56 and column 5, lines 28-32), receiving from the client a

candidate approval associated with the suggested worker (i.e., candidate profile is

updated with indicated interest or feedback 1110, figure 11); and notifying the

supplier of the candidate approval (i.e., recruiter is notified that interest has been

indicated by employer, 1112, figure 11), determining the current stage of the order

request (i.e., which step of the process the job posting is currently at, figure 13), and

generating a second display screen including a listing of order requests associated

with a particular user (i.e., the employer database and job posting database are

updated to reflect the addition of a new job posting 1306, figure 13); and associating

with each order request listed in the second display screen the corresponding status

display component (i.e., which step of the process the job posting is currently at,

figure 13).

Kurzius et al does not disclose generating a first display screen including status

display components associated with each stage of the order request, wherein the

status display components correspond to a series of bars equal to the number of

stages, the method further comprising: highlighting the number of bars

corresponding to the current stage; and modifying each status display component to

reflect the current stage of the order request, and generating a display screen

providing an order history of the order request, wherein the order history includes

information on any action taken on the order request.

Tracey et al disclose managers able to graphically determine who is responsible

for a project at any stage and the system displaying status information derived from

a database and updated as work is performed (column 3, lines 1-6). Further, Tracey

et al disclose a display generator that creates colored bars or other visually

identifiable symbols on a display screen that symbolizes output and status. In

addition, Nadkarni discloses employer activity information that describes the action

taken by the employer (e.g., decision pending, rejected, canceled, figure 6(i)).

Neither Kurzius et al nor Tracey et al disclose a display screen providing

information on efficiency of the supplier in fulfilling the order request. Nadkarni

discloses a vendor able to print reports on interviews scheduled by employers, open

inquiries, and identification of those positions remaining open (column 7, lines 22-

33).

Tracey et al disclose applications for the features described in a variety of

workflow contexts, including tracking and managing of tasks (column 5, lines 49-56),

while both Kurzius et al and Nadkarni are concerned with effective recruitment of potential candidates, therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include providing an order history of the order request, wherein the order history includes information on any action taken on the order request and text based on electronic mail associated with such action and providing information on efficiency of the supplier in fulfilling the order request in Kurzius et al, as seen in Tracey et al and Nadkarni, respectfully, as an efficient manner of tracking the status of the job posting process.

As per claim 21, Kurzius et al does not disclose a time taken for the supplier to respond to the order request, and a number of candidates the supplier has provided, and a number of candidates supplied by the supplier that have been interviewed and/or assigned by the client. Nadkarni discloses a vendor able to print reports on interviews scheduled by employers, open inquiries, and identification of those positions remaining open (column 7, lines 22-33). Both Kurzius et al and Nadkarni are concerned with effective recruitment of potential candidates, therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include efficiency reports in Kurzius et al, as seen in Nadkarni, respectfully, as an efficient manner of tracking the status of the job posting process.

Claim 37 is rejected based upon the same rationale as the rejections of claims 9 and 22.

As per claim 38, Kurzius et al disclose notifying a first user when the order request may require a response (i.e., recruiter is notified that interest has been indicated by employer, 1112, figure 11).

As per claim 39, Kurzius et al disclose notifying a second user when submission of the response may require feedback (i.e., candidate profile is updated with indicated interest or feedback 1110, figure 11).

As per claim 40, Kurzius et al disclose the first user is a supplier (i.e., recruiter is notified that a new job posting has been entered 1308, figure 13).

As per claim 41, Kurzius et al does not disclose providing a summary report identifying an amount of time elapsed for each stage of the order request. Tracey et al disclose managers able to graphically determine who is responsible for a project at any stage and the system displaying status information derived from a database and updated as work is performed (column 3, lines 1-6). Further, Tracey et al disclose applications for the features described in a variety of workflow contexts, including tracking the progress of various projects and tasks, thus including the timeline associated with the project or task (column 5, lines 49-56), therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a summary report identifying an amount of time elapsed for each stage of the order request in Kurzius et al, as seen in Tracey et al, as an efficient manner of tracking the status of the job posting process.

5.   Claims 10, 11, 25, 26, 28 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Kurzius et al, in view of Nadkarni (USPN 6,266,659), in further

view of Tracey et al (USPN 6,798,413).

As per claim 10, Kurzius et al disclose computer-implemented method for

ordering workers (system 10 for automated candidate recruiting and processing,

figure 1), comprising: wherein the order request is processed in a number of stages

(i.e., process by which new postings can be created and registered by an employer,

column 14, lines 55-56); receiving at least one candidate submission from the

notified select group of suppliers, including information identifying a suggested

worker intended to satisfy the order request (i.e., candidate profiles, added and

deleted by recruiter in database server 30, that match the job criteria 1312, column

12, lines 63-67, figure 13); and notifying a client associated with the order request of

the candidate submission (i.e., employer is informed of ranked matching 1314, figure

13).

Kurzius et al does not explicitly disclose determining, from a set of suppliers, a

select group of suppliers capable of satisfying an order request based on stored

information associated with the set of suppliers, the stored information including at

least an identification of types of workers associated with each supplier; notifying

each supplier in the select group of suppliers about the order request. Nadkarni

discloses the employer search restricted to select groups of vendors, based on

preferred qualifications (column 5, lines 56-60), wherein information about

candidates associated with the vendor are stored in a database in step 307 (column 6, lines 60-66).

In addition, Kurzius et al does not disclose providing an order history of the order request, wherein the order history includes information on any action taken on the order request and text based on electronic mail associated with such action. Tracey et al disclose managers able to graphically determine who is responsible for a project at any stage and the system displaying status information derived from a database and updated as work is performed (column 3, lines 1-6). In addition, Nadkarni discloses employer activity information that describes the action taken by the employer (e.g., decision pending, rejected, canceled, figure 6(i)).

Neither Kurzius et al nor Tracey et al disclose providing information on efficiency of the supplier in fulfilling the order request. Nadkarni discloses a vendor able to print reports on interviews scheduled by employers, open inquiries, and identification of those positions remaining open (column 7, lines 22-33).

Tracey et al disclose applications for the features described in a variety of workflow contexts, including tracking and managing of tasks (column 5, lines 49-56), while both Kurzius et al and Nadkarni are concerned with effective recruitment of potential candidates, therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include providing an order history of the order request, wherein the order history includes information on any action taken on the order request and text based on electronic mail associated with such action and providing information on efficiency of the supplier in fulfilling the

order request in Kurzius et al, as seen in Tracey et al and Nadkarni, respectfully, as

an efficient manner of tracking the status of the job posting process.

Claim 11 is rejected based upon the same rationale as the rejection of claim 10,

since it is the computer program claim corresponding to the method claim.

As per claims 25 and 28, Kurzius et al disclose determining the current stage of

the order request (i.e., which step of the process the job posting is currently at, figure

13). Neither Kurzius et al nor Nadkarni disclose generating a first display screen

including status display components associated with each stage of the order

request; and modifying each status display component to reflect the current stage of

the order request. Tracey et al disclose managers able to graphically determine who

is responsible for a project at any stage and the system displaying status information

derived from a database and updated as work is performed (column 3, lines 1-6).

Further, Tracey et al disclose applications for the features described in a variety of

workflow contexts, including tracking and managing of tasks (column 5, lines 49-56),

therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to include a status display components associated with

each stage of the order request; and modifying each status display component in

Kurzius et al, as seen in Tracey et al, as an efficient manner of tracking the status of

the job posting process.

As per claims 26 and 29, neither Kurzius et al nor Nadkarni disclose the status

display components correspond to a series of bars equal to the number of stages,

the method further comprising: highlighting the number of bars corresponding to the

current stage. Tracey et al disclose managers able to graphically determine who is responsible for a project at any stage and the system displaying status information derived from a database and updated as work is performed (column 3, lines 1-6). Further, Tracey et al disclose a display generator that creates colored bars or other visually identifiable symbols on a display screen that symbolizes output and status (column 6, lines 47-49). In addition, Tracey et al disclose applications for the features described in a variety of workflow contexts, including tracking and managing of tasks (column 5, lines 49-56), therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a status display components correspond to a series of bars equal to the number of stages in Kurzius et al, as seen in Tracey et al, as an efficient manner of tracking the status of the job posting process.

Response to Arguments

6.   In the Remarks, Applicant argues, with respect to claims 1, 10 and 11, that neither Kurzius et al nor Tracey et al disclose providing an order history of the order request, wherein the order history includes information on any action taken on the order request and text based on electronic mail associated with such action. The Examiner respectfully disagrees and submits that Kurzius discloses a variety of notification, processing, and further recruiting functions initiated in response to interest or feedback, including electronic mail (column 14, lines 28-32). Moreover, Tracey et al disclose managers able to graphically determine who is responsible for

a project at any stage and the system displaying status information derived from a

database and updated as work is performed (column 3, lines 1-6). In addition,

Nadkarni discloses employer activity information that describes the action taken by

the employer (e.g., decision pending, rejected, canceled, figure 6(i)).

Moreover, with respect to Applicant's arguments against the references

individually (e.g., paragraph between pages 21 and 22, and the first two full

paragraphs of page 22 in Applicant's response filed February 26, 2007), one cannot

show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are

based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208

USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed.

Cir. 1986).

Applicant also argues that neither Kurzius et al nor Tracey disclose providing

information on efficiency of the supplier in fulfilling the order request. The Examiner

submits that Nadkarni discloses a vendor able to print reports on interviews

scheduled by employers, open inquiries, and identification of those positions

remaining open (column 7, lines 22-33).

With respect to claims 7 and 20, Applicant argues that Kurzius et al does not

disclose generating a display screen including a listing of order requests associated

with a particular user. The Examiner respectfully disagrees and submits that Kurzius

et al discloses the employer database and job posting database are updated to

reflect the addition of a new job posting 1306 (figure 13) and which step of the

process the job posting is currently at (figure 13), thus indeed disclosing a display

screen including a listing of order requests associated with a particular user and

associating with each order request listed in the second display screen the

corresponding status display component. In addition, Nadkarni discloses employer

activity information that describes the action taken by the employer (e.g., decision

pending, rejected, canceled, figure 6(i)).

Conclusion

7.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Andre Boyce whose telephone number is (571) 272-

6726. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Tariq Hafiz can be reached on (571) 272-6729. The fax phone number

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-
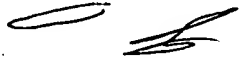
8300.

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automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-

272-1000.

adb
May 14, 2007

ANDRE BOYCE
PATENT EXAMINER
AU 3623